



## FACT SHEET

# United States Air Force Reserve

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Office of Public Affairs

913th Airlift Wing, Willow Grove ARS, PA 19090-5203

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## Summary of Accomplishments

### *Major operations executed by the 913th Airlift Wing*

**Operation Noble Eagle/Operation Enduring Freedom** – Members of the 913<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been supporting Operation Noble Eagle/Operation Enduring Freedom since 9/11. The Air Force mobilized and deployed approximately 25 members of the 31 Aerial Port Squadron in January 2004 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. They are expected to remain mobilized for one year.

In 2003, over 300 members of the wing were activated in February for Operation Noble Eagle. Between July and December 2003, approximately 200 activated reservists deployed to the Persian Gulf for Operation Enduring Freedom. The wing provided US Central Command with tactical airlift in the region.

In January 2002, the 327 AS conducted 76 Alpha and Bravo Alerts and the 913 MXS stood 22 alerts. During 2002, the 913 SFS deployed 67 members for over 3700 man-days along other Wing members for an additional 1000 man-days. The Wing activated approximately 100 members after 11 Sep 2001.

**Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) 9 and 10** – June 2000 to November 2000, 913 AW was the lead Wing for these deployments and supported 99 taskings over the six-month period.

**Coronet Oak (formerly Volant Oak and Phoenix Oak)** – Reservists from the unit have supported the “Oak” mission since its inception in 1977. During the last two years, the Wing has played a significant role in furthering this mission:

In 2002, the 913 AW conducted three two-week deployments to San Juan, Puerto Rico to support this operation. From the 14 to 28 December 2002, the Wing deployed 52 troops over the holidays. From 23 February to 23 March 2002, the Wing deployed three rotations deploying over 100 troops. On 29 September 2001, just 18 days after “9/11”, the 913 AW deployed 47 members for two weeks to San Juan, PR to support Coronet Oak.

From 4 to 18 December 1998, 60 troops supporting three C-130 aircraft deployed to Howard AFB, Panama for the unit’s last time. While in Panama, the Wing flew humanitarian relief missions into Honduras in the wake of Hurricane Mitch. In May 1999, Coronet Oak Operations moved from Panama to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

In April 1999, the Kosovo crisis erupted and the units flying newer C-130’s were deployed to Europe and the Wing was tasked to fill the shortfalls in the Coronet Oak Deployment Schedule. Between April 1999 and September 2000, the Wing deployed to Puerto Rico five times. To support these deployments, the unit provided approximately 275 troops including 20 aircrews.

In addition to providing aircrews and support units to Puerto Rico, the Wing provided one of the first Coronet Oak Commanders to Puerto Rico. From 18 May to 3 July 1999, Col. Timothy J. Thomson, 913 OG/CC was selected as the interim Coronet Oak Commander. He worked closely with

his counterpart at the 156 AW (PRANG) and his command channel at USSOUTHAF to identify and resolve critical support and operational issues facing the operation unique to its new location.

**Counter–Drug Support:** April 2002 and September/October 2000, the unit deployed C-130 aircraft, aircrews, and support troops along with other reserve units to Operation Palmetto Ghost staged from Mercedita IAP, Puerto Rico. Palmetto Ghost is an operation supporting JTF-B and its counter-drug mission. In further support of the “war on drugs,” the unit flies numerous DEA missions in the Caribbean and South America.

**Special Support Mission:** December 2002, the 31<sup>st</sup> Aerial Port Squadron and the Wing loaded and shipped a GPS Satellite, the 26<sup>th</sup> satellite in twenty years, for Lockheed-Martin. Since 1982, the Wing has been handling and shipping satellites and major space components.

**Joint Forge/Guardian:** 3 August to 6 September 2000, the Wing deployed one C-130 aircraft and 81 troops including four aircrews to support USAFE’s efforts in the Balkans.

**Honduras Deployment:** 27 February to 14 March 1999, 55 reservists deployed to Soto Canto, Honduras to help build a schoolhouse, repair roads and bridges destroyed by Hurricane Mitch.

**Southwest Asia Deployment:** June to July 1998, two aircraft and approximately 90 reservists deployed Ali Al Salem, Kuwait in support of Southern Watch. The Wing was the first C-130E Cargo Airlift Wing deployed to the base and it played a major role in standing up the 4419<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

**Provide Promise:** September 1997 and September 1992 to May 1994, more than 150 reservists and five different aircraft augmented USAFE in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the longest running humanitarian airlift effort in aviation history.

**Uphold Democracy:** October to November 1995, resupplied US Forces in Haiti.

**Partnership for Peace:** July 1995, the first ever Air Force Reserve participation with Hungarian military in joint search and rescue exercise training held near Budapest.

**Provide Comfort II:** November to December 1994, transported food, supplies, and people in support of the Kurdish relief effort in Turkey (Operation Deny Flight).

**Provide Relief:** August to November 1992, more than 80 Reservists deployed to Somalia where they transported humanitarian supplies of more than 30 tons of food daily.

**Hurricane Andrew:** September 1992, the Wing airlifted much needed emergency supplies to Homestead Air Reserve Station, Florida, after it was devastated by a natural disaster.

**Desert Shield/Storm:** December 1990 to April 1991, 325 reservists recalled to active duty and deployed to Southwest Asia for tactical airlift/aerial delivery missions throughout area of operation.

### ***Other Operations executed by the 913th Airlift Wing***

**Operation Market Garden** - September 2002, dropped British paratroopers over Europe in a WWII commemoration.

**Maple Flag** - June 2002, international exercise conducted airdrops in Canada.

**Air Force Reserve Airlift Support:** Multiple missions airlifting AFRC and active duty personnel and equipment throughout the United States, usually one operation a quarter.

**Mediterranean Channel:** July 1997, delivered supplies for the European Command throughout the Mediterranean countries.

**Joint Airborne/Air Transportability Training Missions:** Contributing missions provide airlift/airdrop capability to Army, Navy, and Marine active and reserve forces. This training enhances the unit's combat readiness and effectiveness by integrating the aerial delivery of a wide variety of customers and cargo loads to unfamiliar drop zones.

### ***Exercises/Competitions executed by the 913th Airlift Wing***

**Rodeo 2000:** From 6 to 13 May 2000, 24 troops including aircrew, maintenance, joint air inspectors, and aerial port crews made up the team and represented the Wing. The Rodeo is an international exercise/competition testing the participants' air mobility skills.

**Swiss Raid Commando:** October 1999 and 1997, the Wing participated in an international reconnaissance exercise involving 18 different countries. Paratroops were dropped onto both land and water, in and near Lake Neufchatel, Switzerland.

**Operational Readiness Inspection:** August 1997, deployed over 600 reservists for four days to a remote location to test unit's ability for wartime mission. Met or exceeded all gaining MAJCOM requirements.

### ***Awards received by the 913th AW***

**Major General Joseph A. McNeil Award:** Received for Leadership Excellence in Human Resources Development – presented by the United States Air Force Reserve. October 1999 – September 2000.

**Flying Safety Record:** May 2000, the Wing was recognized for supporting and flying over 180,000 mishap free flying hours. Our Safety record is one of the most enviable within the Air Force and the Air Force Reserve.

**Aircrew Standardization, Evaluation Visits:** 1984, 1986, 1988 and 1990, the 913th Airlift Wing is the only Air Force Reserve unit to receive four consecutive ratings of "Outstanding."

**"General Claire Chennault Flying Trophy":** Awarded in 1983 and 1986 to the 327th Airlift Squadron as the most outstanding flying squadron in the 14th Air Force. "Air Force Outstanding Unit Award" - Received for exceptionally meritorious service. 1992-1994.

**Current as of January 04**